

Message Text

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, IR

SUBJ: IRANIAN OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ANNIVERSARY

SUMMARY: SHAH AND PRINCESS ASHRAF DELIVERED MAJOR SUMMARY OF IRANIAN ATTITUDES ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SHAH FOCUSED ON EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ASHRAF STRESSED IRANIAN VIEW THAT HUMAN RIGHTS VERY BROAD CONCEPT WHICH REQUIRES LDC'S TO FIND OWN WAYS TO PROGRESS. END SUMMARY. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FRONT PAGE STORIES IN BOTH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS JUNE 1 SPOTLIGHTED HUMAN RIGHTS. OCCASION WAS OBSERVANCE OF TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN TEHRAN HELD 5/31/77. SHAH AND PRINCESS ASHRAF ADDRESSED HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND STRONGLY DEFENDED IRAN'S RECORD AND POLICIES. OF SPECIAL INTEREST WERE ASHRAF'S REMARKS DIRECTED TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ASHRAF READ HER REMARKS TO GROUP OF ABOUT 100 GOI AND FOREIGN OFFICIALS AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

2. SHAH'S MESSAGE FOCUSED ON INTERNATIONAL ATTEMPTS TO IMPLEMENT UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HE NOTED

A) "LEGAL RECOGNITION OF RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND THE INCLUSION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS OF COUNTRIES WOULD BE FUTILE AND FRUITLESS, UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY REQUISIT SUPPORT THROUGH MATERIAL RESOURCES AND EXECUTIVE POSSIBILITIES",

B) "THE GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR IS WIDENING DAILY AND THE UNDESIRABLE RESULTS OF THE (HUMAN RIGHTS) SITUATION ARE BECOMING INCREASING PERCEPTIBLE" AND C) "ANOTHER CONCERN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN...HUMAN RIGHTS IS NATURALLY

THE PROBLEM OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. IN THIS REGARD, WE HAVE, FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, DECLARED OUR FIRM OPPOSITION TO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN ANY FORM."

3. ASHRAF INTRODUCED HER REMARKS BY RECALLING FIRST HUMAN RIGHTS PROCLAMATION WAS ENUNCIATED BY CYRUS THE GREAT WHILE ADMITTING TODAY'S HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE "HAS BECOME FAR MORE COMPLICATED AND COMMENSURABLY MORE VAST." SHE REITERATED THAT EACH COUNTRY MUST ESTABLISH THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AS THE POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR ITS POLITICAL AIMS AND SOCIAL VALUES" AND "MUST SEARCH FOR THOSE HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVES IN ITS OWN COMMUNITY AND TO ATTAIN THEM THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF ITS OWN MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL RESOURCES."

4. HER ADVICE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS FOLLOWS: "THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CANNOT...ADOPT THE WAYS AND MEANS OF THE WESTERN SOCIETIES FOR THE REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.... IN OTHER WORDS, IN THE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES, DESPITE APPRECIABLE PROGRESS MADE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, MANY OF THE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS ARE MORE FORMAL THAN REAL"" ANOTHER CONSIDERATION WHICH SHOULD GIVE PAUSE TO THE DEVELOPING SOCIETIES IN THEIR EMULATION OF THE DEVELOPED INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, IS THE FACT THAT IN THESE COUNTRIES INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT HAS NOT PREVENTED THE GROWING INCIDENCE OF SOCIAL ILLS AND OF PHENOMENA CONTRARY TO HUMAN RIGHTS--E.G. TENSIONS AND MISCHIEFS IN VARIOUS FORMS, INSTABILITIES OF FAMILY LIFE, AND DISMAYING SOCIAL STRIFE. ON THIS BASIS, THE DEVELOPING NATIONS... MUST PUT DOWN AT ITS INCEPTION ANY ACT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF TERRORISM, DISTURBANCE OF PUBLIC PEACE AND SECURITY OR SEDITION, WHICH MIGHT BE RESORTED TO UNDER THE PRETEXT OF STRIVING FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF POLITICAL RIGHTS."

5. TURNING TO IRAN'S IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, SHE STATED IRAN'S APPROACH "TO QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS ENABLED MILLIONS OF IRANIAN WORKERS TO SHARE IN THE PROFITS OF COMPANIES AND INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS AND, THUS, TO ASSUME AN IMPORTANT AND BASIC ROLE IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAN THROUGH WHOLE-HEARTED CO-OPERATION IN PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AND ENTERPRISES." AND "HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR OUR COUNTRY TO PROVIDE MILLIONS OF IRANIAN FAMILIES WITH HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS, GREATER PER CAPITA ENERGY, BETTER FOOD AND NUTRITION, AND MORE SUITABLE CLOTHING AND HOUSING. OUR PARTICULAR WAYS AND MEANS FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE ENABLED A QUARTER OF OUR POPULATION TO BE ENGAGED IN TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, AND TO MAKE FREE TRAINING POSSIBLE IN ALL FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION. IN SUMMARY, OUR NATIONAL APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS ENABLED

THE MIDDLE CLASSES, WHICH PREVIOUSLY HAD FORMED SMALL STRATA IN THE TRADITIONAL LIFE OF IRAN, TO EXPAND IN AN UNPRECEDENTED SCALE, AND IT HAS DIRECTED THE EVOLUTION OF THE IRANIAN SOCIETY TOWARDS AN ADJUSTABLE SCALE OF PRIVILEGES.

6. ASHRAF ALSO NOTED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS INCLUDED WOMEN'S

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RIGHTS (COMMENT: ONE OF HER MAJOR INTERESTS IN IRAN AND THE UN) AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN AN "ALL INCLUSIVE PARTY."
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7. COMMENT: ASHRAF'S REMARKS MAJOR PUBLIC STATEMENT OF GOI THEME THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS MUCH BROADER TOPIC THAN CRITICS OF IRAN SUGGEST AND THAT TERRORISM AND CIVIL DISORDER CANNOT BE TOLERATED AS BY-PRODUCT OF HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLE

8. SHAH/ASHRAF STATEMENTS ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION OF INCREASED IRANIAN CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, BROADLY DEFINED. THIS GROWING INTEREST NOTED BY NATIONAL IRANIAN COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SECRETARY-GENERAL ALINAGHI ALIKHANI IN RECENT SEMINAR DISCUSSION WITH VISITING U.S. YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS MAY 25. ALIKHANI SAID COMMITTEE GETTING MORE SUPPORT NOW THAN EVER BEFORE, AND MOVING TO PUT MORE RESOURCES INTO JUDICIAL RIGHTS AREA. HE TOLD ACYPL VISITORS COMMITTEE HAD SENT ONE LAWYER INTO PRISONS AND WAS COMPILING ROSTER OF LAWYERS AND OTHER INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS WHO MIGHT BE WILLING TO CHECK ON PRISONERS. (COMMENT: ALIKHANI'S WHOLE ATTITUDE TOWARD QUESTION OF JUDICIAL RIGHTS WAS MORE EBULENT THAN

HE EXHIBITED IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH VISITORS AND
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EMBOFFS FOUR TO SIX MONTHS AGO. DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
JAMAL HADDAD, AT SAME MEETING, CONFIRMED COMMITTEE FEELING
NEW LEASE ON LIFE AS RESULT OF GROWING INTEREST IN SUBJECT.)
MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

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